Patent Application

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Jun et al.   DOCKET: 8836-186 (IC12074-US)

SERIAL NO: 10/619,999   GROUP ART UNIT: 3634

FILED: July 14, 2003   EXAMINER: Tran, Khoa H.

FOR: **WAFER GUIDES FOR PROCESSING SEMICONDUCTOR SUBSTRATES**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Examiner:

In response to the Office Action dated October 8, 2004, Applicants provisionally elect the claims directed towards the Species V (Figure 7, claims 9-13), with traverse. Claims 1 to 35 are pending.

As set forth in MPEP §803, if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though the application contains claims to independent and distinct inventions.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on <u>November 8, 2004</u>.

Dated: _11/8/04_

Michele Feiltman

1

The Examiner is respectfully urged to maintain claims 1-35, including species I-XII, in the same application. Under 35 U.S.C. 121 a restriction may be required to one of two or more independent and distinct inventions. (Emphasis added.) Thus, it is the Examiner's option to restrict an application to one or more species. In the present case, comprising multiple species as indicated in the Restriction Requirement and a total of 35 claims, the burden of simultaneously examination is believed to be low. For example, the claims of species I-XII are drawn to a wafer guide. Under such circumstances, the Examiner is encouraged to maintain all claims in the same application.

Respectfully submitted,

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